

Ht. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
4/27/76

Senator Gary Hart
Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Hart,

Although I share the regret you have expressed about the limitations imposed on your committee's report on the intelligence community, from a reading of today's Washington Post it nonetheless does appear that despite the limitations and handicaps your committee has done an important if not historic job.

Some of what you were not able to do may not be done, at least now. Some, however, private citizens may be able to do by various means. This is why I write, to seek what of this kind of help you may be able to provide without impropriety.

My own work in this field is a dozen years old. It includes what from the available accounts your committee did not develop and in some areas on which you have yet to report is definitive and published. Although most of my published work is on political assassinations, my writing has not been limited to this. My research into the domestic activities of these agencies has been caused in part from their improper interests in me and I am confident their intrusions into my rights. In time and in court I hope to be able to go farther than your report does, for example, on publishing and first-amendment rights.

I would like very much to obtain all that your committee and subcommittee publish, for my own work and for archival values. My files are quite extensive and will at some point go to a university or universities.

There may well be, I believe from my prior experiences including that of a Senate investigator and editor, information you have gathered that you are not required to keep confidential. In some areas this could be quite helpful to me and I think helpful to what may be brought to light in the future. Broadly these are all domestic activities. More narrowly they are in the drug and mind-bending areas and on publishing. The reports do not indicate that your committee looked into non-publishing efforts. I believe there were activities of this nature and that they did involve me. My belief is based on some evidence relating to both the CIA and FBI. Thus I am anxious to read the Ober and Hunt testimony. And to be able to see anything relevant not in your hearings and reports, where you are not under restrictions. It is more than likely that the mail and other interception programs involve me and my first-amendment rights. I have some proofs of CIA activities of this nature not from the CIA, which is stonewalling. When I can I will sue it over these activities.

Their interest in my work is unexplained in the minor part of their files they have provided under FOIA/PA requests. What they have provided discloses other large areas of continued withholdings. That it relates to my work on domestic assassinations is clear. I believe that any review of the literature will disclose that I have brought to light most of what is factual and published. My first book was the first book on the Warren Commission. I have published seven books and have filed more FOIA suits than anyone of whom I know. All these suits have been successful in varying ways and degrees.

Of the many disappointments of this 12-year work I particularly regret not having been able to assist your subcommittee on assassinations. It is not because I did not try before and after this subcommittee was established. However, Senator Schweiker was determined to take a course of his own and to listen to what I regard as the siren song of sensationalists and self-seekers I know to be of this character from long and painful personal experience.

He invited me in to confer with him the morning after I had finished shooting the negatives of my most recent book. The next day I was there and spent the morning with him and Dave Marston. I then offered him all of my work and offered xeroxes of the new evidence if he preferred not crediting the published work. His interest seemed to be in four areas of theorizing about JFK assassination involvements, as I told him all coming from my earlier work. I feel I violate no confidence in telling you that I was taken aback by the thought that a Senate investigation was focusing on theories without the prior laying of a factual foundation. So, I offered the factual foundation, with the caution that if it were not laid first the investigation would probably come to nothing and would not earn the support of other Members or the major media.

I left that meeting much encouraged but as it turned out wrongly so.

It was a time of acute physical pain for me. At noon I learned I had phlebitis. Marston drove me to the doctor because I was having trouble getting around even on crutches. The next week I was hospitalized. In order to be able to serve your sub-committee better I took a private room I could ill afford but I heard nothing more. I have not since, either. I did, however, hear radio reports of extensive public theorizing about the at best peripheral.

For some time after hospitalization I could not travel. Afterward, with this previous experience, I felt it would be wrong to make any approach to you. Perhaps I was wrong, but I did raise the question with a Member of your committee I have known and respected for years and he did not disagree. So you have not heard from me.

You do now because I will be continuing my work and because I hope it may be possible for you to help in the indicated way. Thank you for what you have done and for anything you may feel able to do.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg